

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant:** Tsutomu Okada  
**Serial No:** 10/764,892  
**Filed:** January 26, 2004  
**For:** DIATHERMIC SNARE, MEDICAL INSTRUMENT SYSTEM USING THE SNARE, AND METHOD OF ASSEMBLING THE MEDICAL INSTRUMENT SYSTEM  
**Examiner:** Beverly Meindl Flanagan  
**Art Unit:** 3739  
**Docket:** 17376  
**Dated:** February 13, 2006

**Conf. No.:** 9699

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE**

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated September 13, 2005, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the above-identified application in light of the following amendments and remarks:

02/17/2006 WASFAW1 00000044 10764892

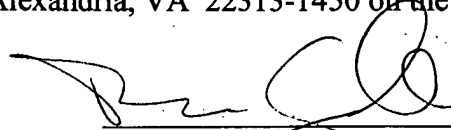
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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date set forth below.

Dated: February 13, 2006

  
Thomas Spinelli